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INDIANS AT • WORK



OCTOBER 15, 1934

A NEWS SHEET FOR INDIANS
AND THE INDIAN SERVICE

• OFFICE • OF • INDIAN • AFFAIRS •
WASHINGTON, D.C.



INDIANS AT WORK

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Indians of a good many tribes will vote on the Wheeler-Howard Act October 27. Following that election, referendums will be held at intervals until all tribes have voted - all, that is, except those in Oklahoma, who are excluded even from the privilege of making known, through official referendums, their own wishes with regard to the Act.

At this time, one or two facts and thoughts may be worth while bringing to the fore.

For one hundred years, the government has legislated arbitrarily where Indians were concerned. When it wanted to suspend the action of a treaty, it could and did act without Indian consent. It moved Indians from old to new homes, and abolished their homes; it turned topsy-turvy their institutions and social systems; and always, it acted as the monarch who could do no wrong. Now comes the Wheeler-Howard Act, which in its various parts changes law and administration of Indian Affairs in profound ways. The changes are in the direction of giving power and responsibility, as well as new material aid, to the Indians.

And as a part of this new Act, the legislation by Congress itself is submitted to the tribes to accept or reject.

This fact stands out in bold contrast to the unbroken

record of one hundred years.

Voices are still being raised, here and there among the tribes or among their white counsellors, which say, in effect:

"This new Act -- this New Deal -- really insults the Indians. It makes them a class apart; it implies that they need special help and that the ordinary American opportunities and privileges are not enough for them. It implies that they are weaklings."

To these disturbed Indians (few but articulate) and their white counsellors it may be pointed out, in the first place, that the Indians can hardly be thought of as just like all other citizens, inasmuch as they have been subjected to one hundred years of a different, discriminating and adverse treatment. They do need special help, for the time being, and the past history of Indian Affairs explains why they need it.

For example, they alone, in the whole population, have been denied financial credit, which means that they have been paralyzed with respect to agrarian and industrial enterprise. They alone, in the whole population, have been subjected to forced allotment and its consequences of forced landlessness. And they alone, in the whole population, have had their lives managed, with elaborate paternalism, from a dictatorial headquarters thousands of miles away.

Hence, it is no insult to the Indians to offer, now, as a part of the New Deal, some special advantages which are not quite the same as those enjoyed by all the other people in the country.

But there is a more fundamental answer than the above, to these troubled voices which are protesting against the Wheeler-Howard Act.

The whole American people are now engaged in forging for themselves new, collective advantages - new methods of social control, new methods of cooperative planning and enterprise, new safeguards against exploitation. There can be no going back to the economic anarchy of the decade before 1933.

In the case of the Indians, the position is nothing but this, - that because their situation, in law as well as in past experience, is distinctive and is comparatively homogeneous, and because admittedly the authority of Congress is practically unlimited, it is now possible for them - the Indians - with the help of Congress to forge out swiftly, where the country at large must forge out more slowly, the needed new cooperative arrangements, the needed new program of land use, the needed modernized credit system, and an education adapted to the realities of life and to the needs of the century ahead.

Let nobody think that the old state of affairs, which once was believed to be good enough for any American, is accepted as being good enough any longer. The overwhelming mass of other than Indian people, in the United States, are determined to get a better life within a somewhat changed social order. And the Indians, if they accept the Wheeler-Howard Act, will merely have

taken upon themselves their own Indian part of this task of nationwide reconstruction.

To those who are going to vote October 27, let me contradict an error of fact which became lodged through misunderstanding or misrepresentation in the minds of a good many Indians last spring, and has not yet become dislodged.

Many Indians believed, last spring, that the Wheeler-Howard Bill would operate in some way to dispossess landed Indians from their land, and to transfer this land to the landless Indians.

No draft of the Wheeler-Howard Bill ever made such a proposal, nor would it have been constitutional if made.

The Wheeler-Howard Act contains no such scheme nor could its language have any such effect.

There is a shortage of land for Indians, amounting to more than ten million acres at the minimum. This must be new land, added to what the Indians have now got, and designed to meet the needs of the landless Indians and of those whose lands are totally inadequate; and the Wheeler-Howard Act is an important step toward meeting this need. But the land in question is new, additional land.

To the Indians at this time one could say, in Goethe's words: "Choose well, your choice is brief and yet endless."

JOHN COLLIER

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

A WORD TO THE INDIANS ON THE HEIRSHIP LAND PROBLEM

In the natural course of events privately-owned Indian lands must on the death of the owner be divided among his heirs and, in turn, among the heirs of the heirs. This result of the allotment system for long brought about the forced sale of Indian heirship lands, usually to white buyers. If there are no buyers, the heirship land must be leased and the proceeds distributed among the numerous heirs at an expense out of all proportion to the size of the gross revenue.

The Wheeler-Howard Act is taking the first hesitant step toward the solution of this problem. The new law, while allowing Indian owners to leave or devise their restricted land to any member of the tribe or to heirs regardless of tribal affiliations in accordance with applicable State or Federal laws, bars the owners or heirs from selling restricted Indian lands to anyone except the tribe or the tribal corporation in the jurisdiction in which the land is located.

Obviously this negative provision, inapplicable in Oklahoma and on the Klamath Reservation, does not solve the problem. Some 7,000,000 acres are now in the heirship status; the acreage is increasing every month. The tribes have not the money with which to purchase this land. At only five dollars per acre, it would require \$35,000,000 to reacquire this land; the maximum authorized appropriation for seventeen and a half years would be needed to return the land now in heirship status to tribal use.

If the problem is to be solved within a reasonable time, the cooperation of the allottees and heirs must be had. They must learn that, for the sake of their race and of their children, they should voluntarily transfer the title to their individual holdings to the tribe or to the tribal corporation, receiving in return the same rights as they enjoy now: namely, the right to use and occupy the land and its improvements, to receive the income from the land and to leave the same rights to their children, except that the children and other heirs could not cut up the land into small unusable pieces.

Where the land in process of inheritance has already been so divided among numerous heirs, they will have the opportunity to return the small parcels to the tribe or tribal corporation, receiving interests in the corporate property in exchange. Thus the tribe would acquire title to now unusable land which, after consolidation, would be assigned for the use of interest-holders in tracts of usable size.

* * * * *

PROPHECY CONCERNING OWNERSHIP OF INDIAN LAND IN SEVERALTY

.....in relation to the division of our Indian reservations into lots or tracts, and their conveyance in severalty to the Indians themselves, with power of alienation to white men after a short period, say twenty-five years. It is to be hoped that this policy will never be adopted by any National Administration, as it is fraught with nothing but mischief to the Indian tribes..... The re-

sult of individual Indian ownership, with power to sell, would unquestionably be, that in a very short time he would divest himself of every foot of land and fall into poverty. The case of the Shawnee Tribe in Kansas affords a perfect illustration of this pernicious policy. The Shawnees occupied a splendid reservation on the Kansas River, where they were told they were to make their home forever. But after a few years of undisturbed possession, our people, in the natural flow of population, reached Kansas..... Our people at once wanted these Indian lands, and they determined to root out the Shawnees in the interest of civilization and progress. They accomplished this using as their proposed lever this identical plan.....First, the government was induced to repurchase a part of the reservation on the ground that they had more land than they needed for cultivation; and, secondly, the government induced the Indians to have the remainder cut up into farms and conveyed to heads of families in severalty, with power of alienation. In 1859..... I found the Shawnees cultivating and improving their farms, some of which embraced a thousand acres. Ten years later, the work was done. There was not a Shawnee in Kansas, but American farmers were in possession of all these lands. It was this individual ownership with power to sell that had done the work. Department of the Interior: Contributions to North-American Ethnology. Lewis H. Morgan, 1881.

A HEALTH SURVEY AND A CHALLENGE

At Zuni Pueblo the Indian Health Service and the Department of Health of New Mexico have completed a health and disease survey. They found a yearly death rate of 42 per thousand of population, that is, three and eight-tenths times the general death rate of the country.

The picture is a dark one except as to the trachoma rate, which proved to be only one percent.

Among 483 children, between five and eight years of age, examined for nose and throat, 180 were found to be in need of tonsilectomy.

Of 680 adults, given the Wassermann test, 124, or 18.53 per cent, reacted positively.

Of 448 children, under 17 years, 52 or 11.6 per cent, were found to be suffering from active tuberculosis.

Of 1,083 children and adults examined for teeth, the number found to need extractions was 373, requiring 922 extractions.

The Committee does not attribute these disturbing findings to extreme poverty but to bad health habits, lack of early diagnosis and treatment and lack of health education. Compared to many Indian tribes, the Zunis are relatively well off, materially speaking.

The Survey Committee furnished a disquieting criticism of the sanatorium school for tuberculous children, operated until recently at Zuni.

Making its study while the institution was still in operation, it recommended that 51 of the 66 patients be discharged, as not needing sanatorium treatment, and it pointed out that large numbers of children, who had never been brought to the sanatorium, were in immediate need of such treatment. "Patients admitted to the Black Rock Sanatorium," the Committee states, "have been kept there under treatment or observation for indefinite lengths of time, frequently three or four years, without ever having been diagnosed as tuberculous."

The report as a whole is challenging to the Indian Service and not reassuring as to the physical future of the Zunis. How shall we meet its challenge?

* * * * *

The September 1 INDIANS AT WORK carried a story on the work of Mrs. Anna Gilliland, Cherokee, entitled "Indian Naturalist". This article was submitted without the author's name. It was written by Miss Bess B. Howard, employee at the Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Muskogee.

EXCERPTS FROM AN ADDRESS BY DR. J. M. TOWNSEND, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH,
INDIAN SERVICE, AT A MEETING OF THE INDIAN SERVICE MEDICAL SOCIETY,
AT KEAMS CANYON, AUGUST 25, 1934

.....For a number of years there appears to have been a general misunderstanding among the physicians of the service as to the availability of health funds at the various jurisdictions. This in part has arisen because of the belief that the total amount for each hospital, shown in the appropriation act, is actually placed in the hands of the Superintendent for use at his discretion. This is by no means true. It is seldom possible to allot all the funds that are shown in the appropriation act to any hospital or sanatorium and it is sometimes necessary to withdraw some of the funds that have been allotted to a given institution to meet emergencies that have arisen elsewhere after the original allotment has been made.

In explanation of the foregoing it may be stated that funds for general medical work outside of the established hospitals and sanatoria have never been sufficient to meet adequately the demands for this service. These demands are for various specialistic services, such as orthopedic surgery and special operations for which the local Indian Service hospital is not equipped. In addition, accidents, epidemics and other emergencies must always be anticipated. Several of our large reservations have no hospitals of their own, therefore hospital services at such reservations must be met as emergencies. Added to this, many of the insane Indians all over the

Service are now hospitalized in the State institutions, and funds to meet this expense must be secured somewhere within the health appropriations as there is no special appropriation made for this purpose. It is true there is a special appropriation made for the hospitalization of a certain number of insane Indians in St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington, but we are all well aware of the fact that for one reason or another it is impracticable to hospitalize many of our insane Indians at St. Elizabeths, and in these cases we must undertake to secure the service from the State in which the patient is located. These patients usually require long periods of hospitalization, which absorbs a large amount of health funds. To accentuate further the drain on our meagre appropriations, this last year we had the added difficulty of having to duplicate many of our annual estimate purchases in the open market, due to delay in receipt of commodities ordered from the Schedule, and in meeting new Government requirements, thus being frequently compelled not only to buy two articles when only one was needed, but also to pay a much higher price for the article, bought in the open market than had been anticipated. Allowing for these emergency expenses, the Indian Office each year withholds various amounts from the several hospital appropriations and sets up this to be used as a saving in emergencies. When it is found to be impossible to meet current expenses from funds actually on hand, a proper justification may be submitted from the field and if an emergency is shown to exist, additional moneys will be allotted if available from the amount withheld, but not to exceed ten percent over the

original Congressional appropriation.....

Misunderstanding may be avoided if the disbursing officer at each unit would at all times keep the health personnel informed as to the status of the funds allotted for health purposes. If during the year funds are withdrawn from his account, this should be immediately explained by the Superintendent to the Physician in Charge, in order that proper adjustments may be made in proposed expenditures involving this fund.

Encouraged though we may be on our past program, in the main we cannot be satisfied with our present institutions. This is evidenced by the ratio of total hospitals operated to those recognized by the American College of Surgeons. Consider this: The Army has 102 hospitals; 38, or 37%, are recognized by the American College of Surgeons. The Navy has 14 hospitals; 5, or 35%, are recognized by the American College of Surgeons. The Veterans' Administration has 67 hospitals; 67, or 100% are recognized by the American College of Surgeons. The Public Health Service has 26 hospitals; 26, or 100%, are recognized by the American College of Surgeons. The Indian Service has 94 hospitals and sanatoria; 5, or 5%, are recognized by the American College of Surgeons. These are Tacoma, Pawnee and Ponca, Kiowa, Shawnee and Claremore. Rosebud and Southern Navajo are provisionally accredited. Of 907 private hospitals surveyed, between 25 and 49 bed capacity, 24.2% were approved. (1953).

The essentials for recognition are as follows:

1. A modern physical plant, properly equipped

for the comfort and scientific care of the patient.

2. Clearly stated constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations setting forth organization, duties, responsibilities and relations.
3. A carefully selected governing body having complete and supreme authority for the management of the institution.
4. A competent, well-trained executive officer or superintendent with authority and responsibility to carry out the policies of the institution as authorized by the governing body.
5. An adequate number of efficient personnel, properly organized and under competent supervision.
6. An organized medical staff of ethical, competent physicians for the carrying out of the professional policies of the hospital, subject to the approval of the governing body.
7. Adequate diagnostic and therapeutic facilities with efficient technical service under competent medical supervision.
8. Accurate and complete clinical records filed in an accessible manner so as to be available for study, reference, follow-up and research.
9. Group conferences of the administrative staff and of the medical staff to review regularly and thoroughly their respective activities in order to keep the service and the scientific work on the highest plane of efficiency.

Our institutional inadequacies are not your fault, they are not ours - but are squarely up to the appropriating bodies who have not given us what is needed to operate a hospital service which should be our pride and up to the standard of institutions of like nature in other Government services. We have to cut the cloth to fit.....

Our dental service consists of twelve regular dentists and

four contract dentists - sixteen in all to cover the entire Indian country. With this small force much valuable information has been found. Recently our Dental Supervisor made an inspection trip to some of the reservations in Arizona and New Mexico. His report is extremely interesting. I will quote from part of it.

"Examination was made of 2,630 Indian school children. The following figures show clearly the incidence of dental caries among them: age group, 6 to 18 years; pupils examined, 2,630; pupils with caries, 682; pupils without caries, 1,948.

This comparatively low incidence of dental caries is due to conditions among the Pima, Apache and particularly the Navajo tribes. These three tribes are the best of all from a dental standpoint. The opposite is true of the Pueblos, who have a high incidence of dental caries. Of this 2,630 examined in the Southwest, 533 were Pueblos. Of this number, 292 were found to have dental caries. A recent examination of 1,306 Northern and Southern Pueblos Indian School children shows 60% with dental caries. Comparison with the foregoing figures shows that while 25 per cent of the total examined were Pueblos, more than 40 per cent of those having dental caries were from this tribe. Considerable hypertrophy of gum tissue was observed in all school children, though the percentage of salivary deposits is low. Observation and reports indicate that there is a high rate of chronic low-grade Vincent's infection prevailing among the entire Indian population of the country.

"The greater percentage of defects is in the deciduous teeth of the younger age groups. This is clearly demonstrated by a comparison of the results of this survey among the Southern Pueblos of New Mexico: age group, 6 to 11 years; pupils examined, 317; pupils with caries, 231; pupils without caries, 86; age group, 11 to 16 years; pupils examined, 146; pupils with caries, 67; pupils without caries, 79.

To make another comparison between the Pueblos and Navajos, of 300 Pueblo children examined in 6 schools, 168 showed dental defects, 132 were normal. In 321 examinations among Navajo school children, 303 were normal and only 18 showed dental defects. This, of course, brings up the question of diets, and here again we find a field of research which should give us fruitful results if carried on.

Another problem which I think should be given consideration is that of crippled children. I have recently received a report from the District Medical Directors of 770 known cases of crippled children, mostly due to congenital dislocation of the hip and tuberculosis. I hope that we may be able to render to these unfortunates orthopedic surgery which will restore, at least to some of them, a better chance to compete with others in gainful occupations.....

I know of no Service in the Government that is in itself carrying on more actual field health work than the Indian Service, and when possible or feasible the policy is and will continue to be to combine our forces with local and State organizations in rendering a health service to Indians and whites alike in communities where the races are interspersed. By this we are giving a broader service, affiliating more closely with State and national health programs, and playing a real role in generalized public health betterment.

FOURTEEN MONTHS OF INDIAN EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK

Indian Emergency Conservation Work began with three major objectives, namely: the creation of employment, the building of men, and the accomplishment of worth while work projects directed toward a conservation of forest and range resources on Indian reservations. We do not attempt here to take an accounting of the first two of these objectives. But in plain figures we can show the status of the third after fourteen months.

During the period beginning July 1, 1933 and ending August 31, 1934, IEC workers have completed the following projects:

Telephone lines	2,254.miles
Truck Trails.	2,511 "
Horse Trails.	710 "
Vehicle Bridges	397
Fire Breaks	590 miles
Fire Hazard Reduction	6,335 acres
Timber Survey	247,545 acres
Livestock Reservoirs.	1,342
Check Dams.	28,503
Range Fence	2,521 miles
Rodent Control.	4,205,879 acres
Insect Pest Control	358,900 acres

Numerous other projects were completed besides considerable maintenance work on projects after their completion.

Robert J. Ballantye,
Chief, IECW Accounts

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK, JONES ACADEMY, 1933-34

By A. Padgett

Superintendent, Jones Academy

The IECW at Jones Academy was started July 18, 1933, with twenty-five Choctaw men employed. Sixteen of these men made the statement that this was the first work, real regular jobs they had ever had, because all available work in their neighborhoods had been given to white men. Many of these men had attended school at the Academy and were very happy to come back and have a part in improving the school property. They all made good hands from the very first, with the exception of three, who were dropped because they did not use their money properly in the support of their families.

Making Pastures

Approximately 480 acres of the 720 acres of the school property was covered with underbrush, dead and down timber and parts of it were so dense that no one could get through it. The men were put to thinning out the growing timber and cutting out the brush, leaving all good trees, also young elms, ash, post-oak, white and water oak, but cutting out most of the black-jack

trees growing on rocky hillsides. All labor was performed by hand and only hand tools were purchased. These consisted of axes, shovels, mattocks, saws and scythes. The men soon learned how we wanted the work done and in a short time dense thickets were changed into beautiful parks, which gave the grass a chance to grow, making pastures for the dairy herd.

Work Carried Over To Indian Farms

Brush, pole and rock dams were also built to conserve the soil and increase the water supply for the

stock, and the banks of the creeks were set to Bermuda grass. These dams were partially broken down in

a spring freshet, with the exception of the pole dams, but all were rebuilt. The men learned to build these dams by two men being assigned each day, and many of them built the same kind on their own allot-

ments later, to conserve the soil. We found the pole dams to be the most practicable, none of them washing out and the men recommended this kind of dam for all watersheds.

Overhead Low

All material, with the exception of cement for the rock dams, was taken from the wooded areas around and no expense, other than purchase of tools, was incurred, less than one half of one percent going to anything other than labor. Two teams were used three weeks in

building a dam for a stock pond. The night this pond was completed we had a big rain and it filled up and overflowed, making a pond of water nine feet in depth. This will be a great help to the dairy herd for the creeks and ponds have gone dry most every summer.

A Model Farm

Woodlands that have been almost useless for pasture because of their density have been made into beautiful parks, with young trees having plenty of room to spread out; the sunshine has been let in so grass can grow all through the woods, and besides adding pasturage, makes our land approach what a real farmer wants in a model farm. More than six miles of fence has been

built completely around the reserve, posts being cut by the men from the timber growing on the property, and less than \$100 had to be spent for wire. With the neat woodlands interspersed in the cultivated areas, and right-of-way along Highway 270, Federal, cut out on both sides, Jones Academy has a crop and stock farm that would be a credit to any farmer in any state.

Interested In Life

Not only has the school been benefited by the work performed by Choctaw Indians, but the money earned by them has been used in support of their families and has enabled them to buy things they and their families needed. It has made them more interested in life because

they could more properly feed and clothe their children and keep them in school regularly. The wife could provide proper diet for the children, clothe them better and, on the whole, more than three hundred Indian people were benefited by the work performed.

AFTER A YEAR OF IECW AT JONES ACADEMY



Stock Pond Made By A Dam Built By IECW Crews



Type Of Dam Which A Year Of IECW Showed To Be Best



Once Dense Undergrowth Now Pasture
Land - Cleared By IECW Crews

No Major Accidents

All men employed on our project were good workers, none complained of the tasks assigned them and not a single dissension was shown during the entire ten and one half months they were employed. We have the distinction of not having one single major accident, one man having a little stick get in his

eye was the only time any man asked for aid, up until May 14, 1934, day this is written. No white men were employed as leaders or supervisors and both head leaders and all assistant leaders were Indians and were as good supervisors as any other men that might have been employed.

Indian Leaders

The leader assigned by the Superintendent was a half blood Choctaw, Cleve Palmer. Mr. Palmer had been out of work for more than two years because of the depression and after he had worked here more than six months, they wanted him to go to Wilburton as head leader. The Superintendent was glad to see him get a chance at something better and was glad to let him go. Today he is drawing a good salary and doing a fine job.

one who would get the job done, and they said, Frost Long. This man was made the night-watchman at the school and still holds the position.

Mr. Long's brother, Wilson Long was a good worker and when Mr. Palmer went to Wilburton, he asked to take him along and made him an assistant leader, a job he is still holding.

Another man, who had not had a job that could be called a steady job in his life, a full-blood, Frost Long, went to work as a laborer. Soon he showed qualities of a leader and was made an assistant leader. When the school needed a night-watchman, the Superintendent asked the men who was the most dependable,

These are only three cases where Choctaw Indians arose to the occasion and many other meritorious cases could be cited. At no time has any man failed to carry out instructions given him, there has been no fussing or dissension and all have made a determined effort to do good work so they could hold their jobs.

RED LAKE INDIANS IN SEMI-TECHNICAL POSITIONS-IECW

By J. H. Mitchell, Supervisor Indian Emergency Conservation Work
and Charles I. Dunaven, Engineer, Indian Service

In February of this year there was set up on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, Red Lake Minnesota, an engineering and forestry project which included the mapping of 80,000 acres. The work consisted of a topographical and a type map of the entire area, the maps to be made by the enrolled men of the IECW.

An Important Territory

The area included in the 80,000 acres comprises the forestry reserve, the proper use of which will play an important part in the economic life of Red Lake Indians for many years to come. The topographical map will be of great value in future logging activities, road construction, drainage and fire protection, while the type map will show the amount and location of all merchantable

timber, the types of natural reproduction, and the areas in need of reforestation. It will also show the more valuable districts for better fire protection and removal of hazards. In short, when completed, these maps will at a glance accurately disclose the forestry and engineering needs of the entire area without preliminary surveys, which are costly and sometimes long drawn out.

The Engineer Tells The Story

Although this project was approved in February, due to weather conditions the actual work, other than control lines did not get under way until April. The work is now more than forty per cent completed. Mr. Charles I. Dunaven, engineer in charge of this project, has taken great pride in the technical progress made by Indians under his patient and sympathetic supervision. In view of the

fact that not a man in his crew had the remotest idea of the value of this undertaking or how the work was to be accomplished we let Mr. Dunaven tell his own story.

"Not one of my Indian boys," he writes, "had ever seen or heard of the instruments they were to use. At first the complications of topography staggered them. Their thought

that a technical training was necessary discouraged them many times at the beginning, but with astonishing rapidity their gloom was dispelled. Their natural ability, their keen observation, together with their acquaintance with the woods, aided them to overcome their lack of technique. At the present time we have twenty-six men engaged in this work. All have reached working efficiency. Their progress compares favorably with work of the same type in other branches of the Government service. I firmly believe that their experience in this project might open up a new field to Indians for which they are naturally adapted and in which they show a profound interest.

"One lack has been that we have not had either the plane table or the aneroid type of mapping, due to the fact that we possess no alidade or aneroid. Given a chance to use these instruments, the Indians would greatly increase their opportunities to follow the work farther and into higher and broader fields. It is due them that I mention several of outstanding ability. Among these are George Kelley, John Needham, John Garrigan, Irvin Schenborn, John Hansen, James Needham, George Gillespie, Benjamin Stately, and Robert Hallet.

"Considering their background and training each is worthy of the highest praise possible to give them. All have acquired enough knowledge to gladden the heart of an old topographer with whom they might in later years enter this in-

teresting field. Of these, George Kelley, twenty-six years of age, is outstanding. He has a fair working knowledge of some of the uses of the transit, level, compass and abney. He locates grades, fire trails and drainage areas for fire roads. In view of the fact that he has only had three years of high school training, and was utterly inexperienced in this work, this progress must be considered remarkable. His interest in his work is so intense and compelling that he has enrolled for a correspondence course in civil engineering.

"The next most remarkable showing of development is in the case of John Needham, who serves in the capacity of draftsman. John has a Haskell education back of him and he is putting it to good use. A natural artist, he is doing work that, from the standpoints of accuracy, neatness and appearance in general, already compares favorably with that of the topographical draftsman of years of experience. Recently he has drawn various designs which are entirely original, showing his creative ability and his interest in this type of work. At least one of these drawings has appeared on the cover of INDIANS AT WORK.

"The other men are of a high and efficient class and I hope that they will be encouraged to follow through in this same field of endeavor long after the mission of IECW has been accomplished.

"I repeat that I firmly believe this to be a field much in line with the Indians' natural ability, and one which they should be given ample opportunity to explore and master."

A SUCCESSFUL INDIAN CATTLE COOPERATIVE

The August 1 INDIANS AT WORK carried an account of a successful community dairy project carried on by the Indians of the Fort Bidwell Reservation. Indians have demonstrated over the past years at a number of agencies their capacity for developing and operating cooperative associations successfully. The record of these associations, it is felt, is worth reviewing, in the light of the authorization contained for such enterprises in the Wheeler-Howard Bill. The following account is of the cooperative cattle associations on Fort Belknap, organized before the passage of the bill and carried on successfully over several years.

The experience of Indians in the cooperative economic enterprises which Indian communities might undertake under the terms of the Wheeler-Howard Bill is indicated by statements furnished by the cattle associations of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

The following statement has been received from the oldest of the Fort Belknap associations, the Lodge Pole Indian Cattle Association:

Lodge Pole is situated about forty miles south of Harlem on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation among the northern foothills of the Little Rocky Mountains.

A little sub-agency is the headquarters for the Farm Agent, Roy L. Peal, an Indian Service employee, who is directing with success the agricultural and stockraising activities among the sixty-five or seventy Indian families living along the northern and eastern portions of the Little Rocky Mountains. During the past few years the progress made by these Indians along the lines of better living, home improvement and stock raising speaks for itself. It has been very gratifying and the Indians themselves are largely responsible for this a-

chievement.

These Indians have worked out this extension program in cooperation with the extension agent.

We have two organizations for the promotion of our mutual benefit: The Lodge Pole Woman's Club and the Lodge Pole Indian Stockmen Association. The club is conducted by the Indian women of the district. Its program is cooperative extension work in agriculture, home economics, and home demonstration, and is under the direction of the officers and the extension agent.

The Lodge Pole Indian Stockmen Association is for the promotion of the cattle industry and for the benefit of the owners in its management.

The Indians of Lodge Pole are real stockmen. They know good cattle, like good cattle, and raise good cattle. The Lodge Pole district of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation is a stockman's paradise. The high and rough hills of the northern and eastern portions of the Little Rocky Mountains provide ideal conditions for the summer months, with an abundance of grass, water and deep coulees; and Chinook Winds is an ideal range for the winter season. Several streams, two cold and two warm, and clear as a crystal, traverse different parts of the range, and, with every piece of bottom in alfalfa, the hay question for this group of stockmen is settled. Very little, if any, of the hay is being sold.

This range consists of individual, State, and tribal lands for which the Association pays a yearly

grazing fee of ten cents per acre. Funds for the operation of the Association are raised by an assessment levied by the board of directors on each head of stock grazed on the association range.

I might say right here that this range is enclosed with a good stock fence and prohibits the running of any but registered bulls, with the completion of good stock corrals and a bull pasture.

This association might well be taken as a model by range stockmen anywhere..

Its advancement has been made through a willing cooperation between the Indian stockmen and the Superintendent through Extension and Forestry employees. (Signed) Sec. Mark R. Flying, Sec.-Treas. Lodge Pole Indian Cattle Association.

The foregoing statement was prepared in the fall of 1933. A supplementary statement of recent date follows:

Nestled under the northern crest of the Little Rocky Mountains, which have an altitude of some 6,700 feet, with its sparkling streams of nature's purest waters, buffalo grasses and rugged hills, is the home of our Hereford cattle, the best cattle on earth.

Some three snows ago, out of troubled mists in the economic life of our reservation, came to us a man in the person of M. J. Johnson, Extension Agent, to pave the way out of these uncertain (uncertain) conditions, and be a life, in the Great Commonwealth.

Mr. Johnson, Superintendent Shotwell, and others, arranged for a meeting with us, which was well attended; the purpose was to organize a stock association. Not anticipating a move of this kind, with the experience we have had in the past, found us just saying, "Too good to be true." However, with a series of meetings and much discussion and explanation, we merged ourselves into a stock association, to be known as Lodge Pole Stock Association, with a membership of 52, a fenced area of 17,885 acres, 800 head cattle, and 160 head of horses. The financial

status O.K. We are progressing. By the end of 1934 will find us much advanced, and an outstanding leader in the industrial world as a stock association in this Northwest. I feel justified in saying the Department has solved the Everlasting Problem Indian Efficiency.

This association is managed by its own officers - all Indians. But is watched by the Department. But we look forward to that time when Uncle Sam will get tired of watching us so much and leave us to our own affairs - when we can say we can.

The Indian nature is the natural; his calling is to the open spaces; that is why he is a stockman. Much praise we must give to those on the part of the Department; L. W. Shotwell, Superintendent; M. J. Johnson, Extension Agent, now of

New Mexico; Mr. Bolen, Extension Agent; Roy Peal, Farmer, for being active in building and causing the possibilities that lie for this body in the future.

Don't know what they think about us. But seems though, they think we will work them out of a job, under the Wheeler-Howard Bill, by our Big Chief, J. Collier, Commissioner. I look forward to that time when we will have this entire reservation covered with Indian cattle.

Concluding my remarks on the Lodge Pole Stock Association to those on behalf of the Department of Indian Affairs - We must be together, work together, play together; by so doing, we will understand one another and reach that goal on time.
(Signed) John F. Healy.

The successful experience of the Lodge Pole Indian Cattle Association inspired a second district of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation to undertake a similar program. The following statement, submitted by the Milk River Livestock Association and signed by Louie Ell, indicates the program of this association.-

This is my opinion towards our newly organized program. Wholeheartedly, I think this is the greatest opportunity that ever come to us Indians. The cattle industry is the only chance I can see that brings to us any means of self-support. As we all know from past experience, we cannot make a go of farming; everyone has tried and failed. Whereas, if we can raise

these high-grade Hereford cattle, it will be only a matter of a few years until they bring us out of our hardship and poverty. I don't think there is anyone more interested than I am in keeping up the good work of our program. I only hope that our board of directors and the Agency officials won't lack in their efforts to make this a successful program. In our past meetings, we have discus-

sed a few things, and I am very well satisfied with the results. Cooperation with our directors and officials is the only means of us ever reaching the goal we are striving for.....

The next step is the upkeep of our fences. There should be line-riders for this purpose all throughout the season. As we are newly started and lack funds to hire any help, it is necessary to voluntarily do this work. There should be range riders as well as line riders. What I mean by range riders is, there should be someone riding among the cattle and keeping the bulls from pairing up with one certain bunch of cattle, keeping them scattered out in proportion to the

herd. There are possibilities of cattle getting bogged in bog holes; and also, from my past experience with cattle, I find that now and then a critter will be found with a dry bone fastened in its throat. The cause is from a lot of times, cattle will roam around and run across a pile of dry bones and naturally they take it for salt and go chewing on it. If a "critter" is not found in time, it will become exhausted and death will follow. To avoid this cause, there should be salt placed throughout the entire lease.

Trusting all our members will uphold our program and try to make this a successful as well as a paying industry, I am, Louis Ell.

* * * * *

The Cover Design. The cover design for this issue of INDIANS AT WORK is sent the Office by Miss Dorothy Peacore. It is copied from a pottery design on the center of a low food bowl excavated from the Mimbres mound in New Mexico.

* * * * *

Correction. In the editorial in the October 1, INDIANS AT WORK, on page 1, there occurred this sentence, "In our power it lies (speaking of the Indian Service and the Indians collectively) to overcome a vital - an almost fatal - dislocation, which in most non-Indian communities has appeared to be incurable and which has left government at the mercy of uninformed crowds and has largely frustrated the social services."

The sentence should have said "uninformed" - not "uniformed". We are not yet in the Reich. John Collier, Commissioner.

COMMUNITY HOUSE AT FALLON RESERVATION

In response to a request that an article be forwarded explaining the method used in building the Community Hall on the Fallon Reservation, I wish to state that the Office at the Fallon Agency is too small to seat over twelve people comfortably and as



Community House Built By The Indians On Fallon Reservation

it was the only place available for the Indians to meet, it seemed worth while to get the young men and women of the Reservation interested in a Community Hall of some description that they could call their own and feel free to use when they so desired.

After talking it over with a number of the more progressive young Indians we decided to call a meeting at the Agency, and see how many we could interest in the matter.

The Preliminary Agreement

On the evening of March 27, 1933, the first meeting was called and quite a crowd responded, and a "Young Men's Progressive Club" was organized. The main motive of this Club was to assist in handling the problems of the Reservation, and to build a Community Hall, the Hall to be

built by individual Indian money donated by the members of the Club and any others interested, also by various entertainments to be held later; the work of constructing the building to be donated free of all charge by the Indian members. Those having teams offered their help when not otherwise in use.

The Contract

The following contract was drawn up: "We, the undersigned, agree to pay the amount here designated, toward building a Community Hall, said amount as a loan to be paid

back when the Hall is completed and funds are available from proceeds obtained from future entertainments." It was signed by twenty-four Indians.

The Officers And The House

Joaquin Dixon was elected temporary president of the Club, Harry Dixon secretary, and Albert Hicks treasurer at this meeting.

A suitable place at the Agency that could be spared was set aside and plans drawn up for a building to be twenty-four by forty-eight feet, with twelve-foot side walls. The estimated cost when finished was to be around five hundred dollars for material.

The entire labor to clear and level the ground, and put up the building was donated by those who were willing to give their time.

The money collected from dues was spent for cement to lay a floor later to be covered with hard wood flooring. The boys who had teams hauled the gravel twelve miles and the others assisted in mixing the cement and laying the floor in which I did the finishing work.

This made a splendid foundation and on April 22, we held an open-air Social and dance with an enthusiastic turn-out of all the Indians and their dogs to celebrate the great event. At this time after paying the musicians, who are reservation boys of considerable talent, we cleared \$11.25.

At this time our Indians

were a little hard up and though we did not expect any great amount, every little bit helped and started the fund. From various other socials, twenty-three in number, we have to date collected \$117.41. We have paid out \$127.63 for material, and to date owe \$10.22, which will be taken care of at the next entertainment Saturday evening.

Accounts are kept of all expenses and are available to any who wish to look over them.

We plan to have a social and dance every two weeks. The entertainments are always held under adequate supervision and to date have been none other than good clean entertainments that have drawn quite a crowd of our white neighbors, who bring their boxes when a box social is held and take an active part in the games and so forth.

At first we had considerable opposition by the missionaries who are opposed to dancing, but at present the situation seems to have cleared and we are sure that good supervised

entertainment is much more to be admired than to have our young people trying to find entertainment on the street corners and otherwise.

At present the building is outwardly finished with the exception of shingles to complete the roof. These we will have on before cold weather.

We plan to have folding tables and a reading table for the winter; also movable benches. So far we have the benches made and painted and one coat of paint on the outside walls of the building.

Electric wires were run from the Agency to the Hall and three lights installed inside the building with two large lights at the front and rear of the building.

The building has a door in front and rear, four windows on each side with ventilators in the gable ends.

A picture is enclosed that you may get a general idea of the building as it now stands. J. N. Justus, Farmer In Charge.

COMMENT ON ETHNOLOGICAL TRAINING FOR INDIAN SERVICE PEOPLE

The following letter has been received at the Office from Dr. Charles T. Loram, Department of Race Relations, Yale University.

I beg leave to offer the following comments on the memorandum "The Bureau of American Ethnology and the Practical Conduct of Indian Affairs". (Published in INDIANS AT WORK July 1, 1934.)

1. The position at the Indian Affairs Office is on all fours with that which confronted us in South Africa during the ten years I served on the Union Government Native Affairs Commission.
2. The essential elements in the position were:
 - a/ The necessity for the formulation of a long time policy.
 - b/ The necessity for much immediate activity on the lines of that policy.
 - c/ The necessity for a compromise between the past policy of 'assimilation' and the newer policy of preserving as much as possible of the indigenous culture.
 - d/ It looks to me as if the Indian Office would have to adopt the policy of "adaptation", that is to retain either in its present or in a modified form what is of permanent present day value in the indigenous cultures while deliberately introducing important elements (that is, health, sanitation, use of land, cooperative societies) which are working better on western civilizations.
3. One of the difficulties we experienced and one which your department is no doubt experiencing at present is the arriving at a compromise between_
 - a/ Bodies....who wish to preserve Indian civilization almost in toto and

- b/ groups, and sentimentalists, who plead for the complete westernization of the Indians.
- 4/ I am sure you are right in planning for the training of your officials, both those in service and those preparing for the Indian Service. I believe that the Indian Office should have a good deal to say in regard to the training offered.

In any case be assured of our interest and willingness to cooperate with you.

* * * * *

A MISSION FETE IN HONOR OF FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA

Mission San Jose de Guadalupe was the scene on September 2 of a fete in honor of the sesquicentennial of Father Junipero Serra. We quote from the address made by Monsignor Joseph M. Gleason, pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church, Oakland, as reported by the MONITOR, San Francisco diocese, as follows:

"Two men stand out as the great personalities of that time. One the barefooted Franciscan friar, Junipero Serra, and the other Juan Bautista de Anza, the greatest pathfinder of the West, and the founder of San Francisco. Governors, military leaders, politicians, all pale into insignificance compared with them. And of the two Serra is historically the greater....

"He lived for the poor Indians of the land. He inaugurated the system of education by which these simple aborigines were given the elements of instruction, taught trades, and made musicians. His system after a century of failure was at last recognized as the wiser by the Indian Bureau of the United States Government. All the conflicts between the padres and the politicians of those early days were instances where Serra and his successors stood up for the rights of the Indians against the civil powers who would make them mere peons."

EXCERPTS FROM AN ADDRESS MADE BY COMMISSIONER COLLIER AT THE SOUTH-
EASTERN FAIR, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, OCTOBER 1, 1934

There are no Indians in Georgia. It might seem that Georgia has no longer any relations to Indians. There are nothing but Indian bones here, and beautiful Indian place names - Tullulah, Oahlonga, Nahcoochee, Hiawassee, Chattahooche, Okeefonekee. But what has the living Georgia to do with people of an alien race long dead?

Though this is my own home, I should not be here today, and the Government's Indian exhibit would not be here, if the answer to this question were: nothing at all.

For, as a matter of fact, the Georgia Indians are not dead; they are living, and at this very moment they are pleading for assistance and for refuge, in a State west of the Mississippi.

* * * * *

First, I want to tell you about our Georgia Indians.

Georgia, like practically every State and like the United States, has been guilty of cruel and devastating wrongs toward Indians. I shall remind you of some of that history, but the important fact is not historical. Those very same Indian tribes who, although living a peaceful and civilized life, were driven out of Georgia and the other southeastern States as wild and dangerous animals would have been driven, are still in existence. They exist in undiminished numbers, and like their forefathers they are

wards of the United States.

They are living in the old Indian territory, now Oklahoma, where they were driven along the "Trail of Tears" a hundred years ago.

And these same Indians - the Cherokees, Seminoles, Creeks, and Choctaws - are right now, after this hundred years' time, suffering cruel and devastating wrongs. I shall tell you something of what these Indians are enduring at the present day, and then I shall ask:

Do not Georgia and the other southeastern States want to discharge their heavy debt to these longest suffering of all the Indians?

If they do want to pay their debt, the southeastern States will have their opportunity in the next Congress.

On June 18 last, President Roosevelt signed an Act of Congress which had been passed after a bitter struggle and which could not have been made law without the repeated, determined intervention of President Roosevelt himself. This new law brings the old "century of dishonor" to an end for the Indians, establishes a policy of liberation, encouragement and practical helpfulness toward Indians, establishes justice for Indians. It opens the gate to future life for the hundred Indian tribes in New Mexico, Arizona, California, the Pacific Northwest, Montana, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas, New York State, and everywhere else except one place.

And that one place is the place where the Indians driven out of Georgia and the other southeastern States were located a hundred years ago. They are still there - in Oklahoma; and Congress denied to the Oklahoma Indians those protections which President Roosevelt insisted were the minimum necessity for all Indians.

The Cherokees, who were driven out of Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee, now live in Oklahoma. They are denied the advantages which the new law gives to all except the Oklahoma Indians.

The Creeks, driven out of Georgia and Alabama, now live in Oklahoma. They are denied the protections and advantages of the New Deal.

And the same is true of the Choctaws, driven out of Mississippi, and the Seminoles, driven out of Florida, and the Chickasaws, driven out of the Kentucky area.

What debt of honor has Georgia yet to pay?

I will remind you only of the Cherokees. They lived peacefully in northern Georgia, eastern Tennessee, and western North Carolina. They used a written language, invented by Sequoyah, a Cherokee Indian. They organized their government on the English-American pattern. They maintained schools, orphanages, libraries, a press, courts, and a legislature. They made intensive and yet conservative use of their land and forests. They were pro-

tected by a very solemn treaty, which had been incorporated by reference into the treaty of Ghent made with England after the War of 1812, so that Henry Clay, for example, believed their position to be impregnable.

Gold, which had brought ruin upon the Incas and Aztecs, started the ruin of the Cherokees. The events are just one century old. Gold was struck at Dahlonega, only sixty miles from where we are at this moment. There ensued an agitation by Georgia and the other States for the removal of the Cherokees across the Mississippi. The agitation was reenforced through a deliberate and lawless policy of crowding the Cherokee lands with whites. This local pressure became Federal policy, exactly as happened twenty years later, again under the curse of gold, with respect to the California Indians. The Supreme Court tried to protect the Cherokees, but failed, because the Court was forced to acknowledge that the authority of Congress over Indians was boundless, and that no constitutional rights or immunities under treaty could be claimed by Indians. Then started the dreadful removal of the Cherokees, paid for not by the Government but out of moneys which belonged to the Cherokees themselves. More than four thousand out of the sixteen thousand Cherokees died in transit from north Georgia to Indian territory. I shall pain you with only two quotations about this mournful incident.

"The Cherokees had been reared from the cradle in easy circumstances and had enjoyed through life its comforts

and some of its luxuries, and there were those too of more frugal, but still sufficient means, and those again who from childhood had been pressed by the gripping hand of poverty.

"That such a heterogenous mass accustomed to live apart in thinly scattered settlements, suddenly crowded together in camps and afterwards in boats, some totally deprived of what habit had taught them to look upon as the necessities of life, and others who had rarely known a season of plenty, deprived of exercise, breathing a confined and poisonous atmosphere ... should in a term of sixty days, even under the most favorable circumstances, generate a pestilence within itself, would not be surprising."

Such was the background of a hundred scenes like the following:

"My blood chills even as I write, at the remembrance of the scenes I have gone through today. In the cluster of cedars upon the bluff which looks down upon the Creek river, and near a few tall chimneys - the wreck of a once comfortable tenement - the destroyer had been most busily at work. Three large families of the poor Cherokees are there encamped, and I have passed much of the day with them, and have devoted the larger portion of my cares to their sufferers - but in vain were my efforts: the hand of death was upon them. At one time I saw stretched around me and within a few feet of each other, eight of these afflicted creatures dead or dying. Yet no loud lamentations went up from the bereaved ones here. They were of the true Indian blood; they looked upon the departed ones with a manly sorrow and silently digged graves for their dead and as quietly they laid them out in their narrow beds ... There is a dignity in their grief which is sublime; and which, poor and destitute, ignorant and unbefriended as they were, made me respect them."

But again I remind you that I am touching upon history only because of the things that are immediately present.

The Cherokees and the other tribes were placed in Indian Territory under renewed treaties, guaranteeing their new lands "as long as grass grows and the waters flow", and guaranteeing their

tribal governments. Again they trusted the Government, and again they were betrayed.

The land hunger of white men prevailed with Congress, and these are the principal things which have happened to the Cherokees and other Southeastern Indian tribes in Oklahoma:

First, their tribal governments and their community life has been outlawed by statute and completely shattered by governmental pressure.

Second, their land holdings have been cut down from more than fifteen million of the best acres to one million and a half of the poorest acres.

Third, those members of the tribes who still possess anything have been put under the control of so-called guardians, appointed by the courts, who, in numerous cases, almost literally have "eaten them alive". Today, out of fewer than 100,000 Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma, 72,000 are totally landless, and their per capita income averages \$48 a year, which means all that they earn, raise from the ground, or receive from the Government or from charity - in other words, all that they consume in a year. Only one in fifty of the Indians in Oklahoma is, or has been, rich from oil.

Now I have already mentioned the far-reaching Indian justice legislation passed by the last Congress under President Roosevelt's drive. The Oklahoma interests were strong enough

to persuade Congress to exclude the Oklahoma Indians from the protections and benefits of President Roosevelt's legislation. In addition, the Interior Department offered a bill which, if passed, would have done away with the avaricious local guardians who batten upon those afflicted Indians. The bill did not pass.

In the next Congress, this subject of the Southeastern Indian tribes, now in Oklahoma, will become a political battleground. Are those Indians to continue to be denied the elementary human rights? Is the predatory work to go on until their last acre is in white possession and until their bodies and souls are wrecked, if not exterminated?

The people of Oklahoma do not want any such result. But neither did the people of the United States want the ruin of all the Indians which was progressing under the old system which Congress changed last June. The system as affecting your Southeastern Indians, now in Oklahoma, has not yet been changed.

Only by a strong, determined interest on the part of the whole citizenry of the country can the right settlement of this bitterly contested issue be obtained. I do not doubt that Georgia will recognize that it has an undischarged debt, and that in the next Congress, Georgia will help to pay that debt.

I have not talked about the Indians who have remained in the Southeast. This truly important Indian exhibit will tell more about them than I could effectively tell.

And I have not talked about those powerful and gorgeous tribes of the far West. They are here at Atlanta through twenty representatives, and what they are exhibiting and doing will be more persuasive than anything I could say.

But I do want to suggest that in this age which is dominated by machinery, and where more and more we are being all standardized into one pattern, it is a good thing, and an important thing, that we still have groups of human beings who live their lives in terms of Mother Earth. It is an important thing to have groups of human beings who do not need labor-saving machinery to create their pleasures, but who produce their own recreation and arts with their own bodies and voices.

It is a good thing to have in this country people who unreservedly believe in the supremacy of spirit over body, and who live in the consciousness of immortal, superhuman, beneficent Powers. They are our most completely religious people.

The Indians, if their future life can be permitted, will make precious contributions to the result which we all surely desire - an America which respects the earth, which loves natural beauty, which adores children, which is strong in its family life, and whose men and women can say, as Robert Toombs, the voice of our Southern Confederacy in one of his great speeches, said (and it is what the tribal Indians can truly say):

"Who could fall, if his country shall rise?
Who would rise, if his country shall fall?

GABE E. PARKER

On November 1, Gabe E. Parker will enter on duty as Superintendent of the Winnebago Agency, Nebraska. Mr. Parker is a Choctaw Indian and has had many years of Government service. On May 16, 1910, he was appointed Superintendent of the Armstrong Male Orphan Academy, a boarding school of the Choctaw Nation, and served in this capacity until September 11, 1913. He had previously been connected with the Choctaw educational institutions for a period of eleven years. He was educated in the Choctaw schools and was at one time president of the Indian Territory Teachers Association. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of the State of Oklahoma and designed the great seal for that State. In 1913 he was appointed Registrar of the Treasury by President Wilson and served in that capacity until January 1, 1915, at which time he entered on duty as Superintendent of the Five Civilized Tribes Agency at Muskogee, Oklahoma. This assignment was also by appointment of President Wilson. Mr. Parker served in this capacity until May 31, 1921.

Mr. Parker is of pleasing personality and has a keen business mind. We feel sure that under his sympathetic guidance a new era will dawn for the tribes centered under the Winnebago superintendency.

INDIAN WOMEN REVIVE THE OLD PRACTICE OF TANNING - USING HIDES OF ERA CATTLE

The Department of Agriculture approved the purchase of about one hundred thousand drought cattle by the Indian Service. These cattle were slaughtered and the meat preserved by the Indians for their own use. The hides of the animals, however, bid fair to create quite a problem as they were not supposed to enter commercial channels.

At one time, every Indian woman knew how to care for hides. From them she made much of the clothing of her family - clothing that was not only durable for hard wear, but fine and beautiful as well. But now the art is almost lost, and, in order to utilize the hides of the ERA cattle, instruction had to be given in the District Local Leader Training Schools.

The result is that a revival of the almost lost Indian art of tanning is becoming widespread and once more a part of the routine Indian living. Winter clothing articles will be made of the skins. The following page of pictures shows Indian women on the Rosebud Reservation at work on the one time common Indian occupation.



Stretching And Staking
The Fresh Skin



Stretching The Skin



Scraping The Skin With An
Instrument Of Elkhorn Fitted
With A Sharp Blade



Working The Skin
On A Scythe Blade



Scraping The Skin



Finished - The Tanned Skin

FROM IECW WEEKLY REPORTS

Seed Year At Sac And Fox. Timber stand improvement work moved over across the road now.

Erosion control work is now back on the reservation proper, a more accessible site than the tented lands.

A frost has started the nuts falling so two men are collecting seed for planting. Seems to be an excellent seed year, though it is impossible to find any ash seed. Fred Anderson.

All This At Eastern Navajo. Rebuilding dam and hauling rock and placing rock on dam and hauling rock for Erosion control, building fence around dam, and building fence around the Erosion Control, two men cutting posts for fence and one wagon hauling posts. Robert Etcitty.

Dances And Dams At Zuni. Group #9. There are nine of my men work this week and rest of them thrashing wheat at Tekopo. These peoples that live at Tekopo. They put up another colorful dance Sunday. They were getting ready for a dance this week too. We are building a larger rock shingle dam with cedar tree brushes on sage brushes. We had a rain here Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock and our dams seal with dirt, most promptfull. We complete six large dam and one small. Roy Wick.

Minature Forest At Lac de Flambeau. Preparations for the tree

planting season in October, is about complete. With the planting of 10,600 trees this unit will or should look like a miniature forest.

The tree surgery project has been completed 100%. R. J. Longwall

Luck at Western Navajo. This well is located in Cameron District, where it is very much in need of water. To our luck we have struck a vein of water at the depth of twelve feet which flows about five gallons to the minute. The best well in this district. William H. Dalton.

White People Approve At Pawnee. Tearing old fence down and building new four wire fence.

We tear down one mile of old fence and reconstructed one mile new four wire fence.

My men feel to be in the best of spirit and proud of the work we have completed this week. Mr. C. C. Savage visit our project this week and seem to be satisfied with our work, if the weather permit, we are willing to complete one mile of fence during next week. The white people's seem to approve highly the IECW work the Indians are doing in the work. George L. Pipestem.

Heavy Work At Northern Pueblos. During the week we done digging post holes. Brushing the boundary 13 repairing truck trails using 4 horses packing spools fencing wire up the

mountain.

During the week we brushing cutting posts, digging post holes heavy climbing the mountain 14 miles round trip and more each day. Herman Velarde, Joseph F. Tafoya.

One Armed Crew At Paiute. The boys have been fencing in some rough country this week. They are fencing right alongside the state highway but it passes through some real cuts and washes which holds up the fencing considerably. We put up about three miles of wire and the post setters dug and set about four miles of posts. The work has gone much faster since we have been working along the highway. This coming week we expect to set up at least four miles of fence and more if we can possibly manage to do it. Dr. Farrow, our Superintendent, was here last Tuesday and inoculated all of us against typhoid fever and on Wednesday there were a quite a few sore arms. Some of the boys practically worked with one arm but they all were on the job, not one of them stayed home although some of them were pretty sick.

The recreational end is going along fine and the boys are playing horse shoes and volley ball for a pastime. William J. Lemay.

The Use Of IECW Trails At Flat-head. National Forest reports numerous fires on summit of Mission range set by lightening during Friday's storm which was without rain.

One group of five men and a fire guard go up the Station Creek Trail and journey northward along

rim to Fire Camp on Blue Bay ridge. They stay two days. Find two small fires but unable to locate several others. They simmer and barely smoke and in dense spruce hard to find.

Another group of twelve men and a fire guard go up Skidoo Creek Trail and find three small fires at the head of Skidoo Creek. Trench and work all night burning up all material inside fire line. Pack string along. They stay two days.

Two men, a packer and tools, sleeping bags, and grub go up Station and find two more fires at head of Whitetail Creek in 23-19.

The Trail Maintenance crew go up Boulder Creek Trail and into fire camp at Blue Bay ridge and stay three days looking for fires and find two small strikes just simmering in rocks. Put out and return Thursday.

Wednesday night a fire shows through smoke on South side of Station Creek in a densely thick stand of reproduction, rocks and steep cliffs. Get fourteen men and start Thursday morning. Fire appears to burn down hill slowly, has been hanging in rocks and slides for three days. Burnt over about ten acres

Takes four hours to reach the fire. Men stay all night. Send pack string up with grub and water. Back following night, fire trenched and safe.

The last lightening storm raised havoc along the top of the range.

Men suddenly realize the importance of our trails. They battle through the brush for four hours and find it a hard task. With our fifty miles of horse trails constructed last year in use during the worst fire season in our history we find how really valuable this work has been to us.

Our maintenance crew this year will put our trails into better shape than they were last year.

The trail crew is back in camp and very much fed up on fires. They are raring to go on trail construction once more, with a realization of what trail construction means as a benefit to the entire country. P. H. Shea.

Experience Shows At Cheyenne River. Good progress was made this week by this crew. It is surprising how much more adept the men are in handling the tools than they were last year. There is quite a bit of competition between the two crews, but they are about tied as far as results are concerned. E. F. Pillsbury.

Scenery At Red Lake. I wish to comment for people who love nature in its fall dress suit. You could never wish for more elaborate, and colorful picture observable from the lookout. Always at this very time many people will travel miles to view such sights.

From this tower one can get a remarkable picture of the heavy white pine groves setting in a mag-

nificent boundary of thousand of colored trees. At this time of the year one can pick out the sections in dark color which show up as the evergreen timber land.

As for the project work, number three is again working with a full crew after the school boys returned to their classes.

Project eight is under operation, and when this is completed most all the work that was mapped out will be finished with the exception of some bad spots which will need maintenance work.

No fires reported in our district so far. S. S. Gurneaux.

Mud At Hopi. During removal of the mud every man and team had a difficult time. Occasionally bolder teams got stuck in the mud. Men with bare feet struggled to scrape out enough mud and the shift to dry dirt so as to make it compact and cement. In spite of the hard physical work the humor and fine spirit of men have been freshly alive. Fred Kabotie.

First Aid At Yakima. Sixty men attended first aid classes given this week, a healthy interest has been shown, the men seeming eager to absorb material given them during their one and one-half hour periods twice per week. Lectures this week consisted of the care and detection of fractures, sprains and so forth. The following lecture being on the uses of the roll and triangular bandage. G. W. St. Mitchell.

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